GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1242
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2001
ISSUE OF LOI TO TELECOM COMPANIES
KANTI SINGH;MOHAMMED SHAHABUDDIN

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telecom companies to whom Letters of Intent (LOI) issued in various circles to provide basic telephone service have started functioning;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which these companies are likely to start functioning ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Out of the 76 Letters of Intent (LOIs) issued so far to the private companies for provision of Basic Telephone Service under the Guidelines dated 25.1.2001, Licence Agreements were signed against 16 LOIs only on 20th July, 2001.

(d) The LOI holding companies shall be able to start provision of services only after signing the Licence Agreements.Rollout obligations stipulate setting up of Points of Presence in 15% of Short Distance Charging Areas (typically Tehsils) within two years of signing the licence agreements.